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GAMES OF DANVILLE, VA.

BY CADDIE S. ISHAM.1

I. "MY OLD MISTRESS SENT FOR YOU."

This is an old game, no longer played. The players sit in a circle, and a dialogue between one player and the circle follows:—

ONE. My old mistress sent for you. CIRCLE. What to do?

ONE. Pat your ones to knee.

Each pats knee with right hand.

ONE. Pat your twos.

Each pats knees with both hands.

ONE. Pat your threes [two hands, one foot].

Each pats with hands and right foot.

ONE. Pat your fours [two hands, two feet].

Each pats with both hands and both feet.

ONE. You alls.

All get up and dance.

2. HEN AND OLD LADY.2

MOTHER HEN. Chickame, chickame, cram your crow.

I went to the well to wash my toe;

An' when I got back, my chicken was gone. What time, old lady?

OLD LADY. One o'clock.

Here they start to fight for the chicken.

OLD LADY. I shall have a chicken.

MOTHER HEN. You sha'n't have a chicken.

¹ Mrs. Isham is a graduate of Hampton Institute.

² Compare Charleston, S.C. (JAFL 30: 376).

3. GREEN GROWS THE WILLOW-TREE.







